(घ) भारत के हीरा उद्योग को उपलब्ध अपरिष्कृत हीरे के स्रोत हैं अन्टवर्प और लंदन। तराशे हुए तथा पालिश किये गये हीरों के लिए प्रमुख बाजार हैं यू०एस०ए०, बेल्जियम और हांगकांग।

(ङ) तराशे तथा पालिश किये गए हीरों का वार्षिक निर्यात लक्ष्य विदेशों में मौजूदा दशाओं को ध्यान में रख कर तय किया जाता है। वर्ष 1993-94 के लिए 9378 करोड़ रुपए का लक्ष्य है।

Import of Cowdung under Dunkel Agreement

1915. SHRI ASHIS SEN :
SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India has to import cowdung under Dunkel Agreement ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) whether the country is not self-relient in that item ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Trade Pact with Germany

1916. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE :
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any trade pact was signed with Germany during the Prime Minister's recent visit to that country ;

(b) if so, what are the terms and whether it contemplates any move towards decontrol of drug prices and if so, details thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken in pursuance thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Companies Opting out of 100 per cent EOU Scheme

1917. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :
SHRI GAYA SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the 100 per cent Export Oriented Units (EOU) Scheme has become less attractive following the liberalisation and many of them have sought permission to opt out of this scheme and change to Domestic Tariff Area Projects ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Growth of Export Oriented Units (EOUs) has generally maintained a positive trend. A few units have sought permission to opt out of the Scheme for reasons such as technological obsolescence fluctuations in the international market and financial/management problems. Some of the steps taken to improve the performance of EOUs include simplification of policy frame-work, reduction of duty on domestic sales, higher access to the local market for agro-based products and delegation of powers to Development Commissioners of EPZs in respect of EOUs.

Restructuring STC and MMTC

1918. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has since been taken to restructure the State Trading Corporation of India and MMTC taking into account the 'risk' and 'challenges' faced by them in the wake of large scale decanalisation ;

(b) if so, details thereof ;

(c) if not, the stage at which the matter stands at present and the likely restructured set-up of these corporations ?